

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 05936 071135Z

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ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
----- 098084

R 070653Z OCT 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9968
INFO USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 5936

STATE FOR CU/EE; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, RO
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN LECTURER PROGRAM, 1976/77

REF: A. BUCHAREST 5795 BM STATE 178443; C. BUCHAREST 4165

1. MINED ADVISED US INFORMALLY THAT GOR CAN PAY ONE-WAY BUCHAREST-NEW YORK AIR FARE FOR ALL THREE MUSICIANS, BUT NOT ROUNDTRIP FARES. IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY AT THIS POINT WHETHER OFFER REPRESENTS BARGAINING TACTIC OR FINAL POSITON, BUT AMBASSADOR MAY HAVE OPPORTUNITY THIS WEEK TO PURSUE MATTER FURTHER WITH FINANCE MINISTRY, WHICH HAS BECOME INVOLVED IN PROJECT ALONG WITH MINED AND MFA.

2. ASSUMING ROMANIANS WON'T IMPROVE ON OFFER, WE HAVE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVES: (A) REGRETFULLY DECLINE OFFER ON BASIS OF ESTABISHED PRINCIPLE THAT SENDING SIDE PAYS ALL INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION; (B) ASK WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY TO PAY RETURN FARES OR PROVIDE FREE HOUSING OR OTHER SUBSIDY TO ALLOW MUSICIANS TO FINANCE RETURN TRIP FROM SALARIES; (C) DEPT RECONSIDER ITS POSITION IN REFTEL B AND PROVIDE ENOUGH ADDITIONAL PER DIEM FOR OTHER TWO MUSICIANS TO COVER RETURN TRANSPORTATION COSTS; OR (D) HAVE UNIVERSITY ARRANGE CONCERT PERFORMANCES FOR WHICH MUSICIANS WOULD RECEIVE FEES OR HONORARIA ENOUGH TO PAY FARE HOME. EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS SUCH ARRANGEMENT PERMISSIBLE WITH J VISAS PROVIDED SPONSORING INSTITUTION JUSTIFIES IT AS ESSENTIAL PART OF PROGRAM.

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3. EMBASSY BELIEVES ROMANIANS HAVE MADE GENUINE EFFORT TO GET AROUND REGULATIONS TO ACCOMMODATE US ON ADMITTEDLY UNIQUE EXCHANGE PROPOSAL. SOME QUID PRO QUO FLEXIBILITY ON OUR SIDE COULD BE JUSTIFIED ON BASIS OF CONSIDERATIONS OUTLINED IN REFTEL C.

4. REQUEST DEPT REPORT DEVELOPMENT TO GARFIAS IN SEATTLE ASAP AND GET UNIVERSITY'S REACTION TO ALTERNATIVE (B) AND (D) ABOVE.
BARNES

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NNN

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